

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-05 IO-04 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05

SCI-02 OMB-01 AGR-05 HEW-02 DODE-00 PM-03 OIC-01

AID-05 IGA-01 L-01 DRC-01 /062 W

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P R 160610Z OCT 74

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5582

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, PINT, EGEN, TU

SUBJ: ESTABLISHMENT OF CODEINE FACTORY IN TURKEY

1. ON OCT. 15 MR. GEORGE T. NELSON, NEW GENERAL MANAGER OF ABBOTT LABORATORIES IN TURKEY, VISITED CONGEN TO DISCUSS ABBOTT INTEREST IN POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT FACTORY IN TURKEY TO PRODUCE LEGAL CODEINE FROM OPIUM POPPY STRAW. NELSON REFERRED TO PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS OF HIS PREDECESSOR (CHAPMAN) WITH CONGEN OFFICERS AND DCM BERGUS IN WHICH ABBOTT INDICATED IT HAD NO INTEREST IN SUCH A VENTURE.

2. NELSON STATED HE HAD RECEIVED CABLE FROM ABBOTT HOME OFFICE ON OCT. 4 WHICH STATED STATE DEPT. HAD GIVEN "CLEARANCE" FOR ABBOTT TO INVESTIGATE THIS POTENTIAL VENTURE, AND HE NOW ACTIVELY PURSUING. NELSON SAID HE HAD BECOME AWARE FROM LOCAL ABBOTT COLLEAGUES THAT GOT MAY BE CONSIDERING STARTING FACTORY WITH EASTERN EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION. FOR THIS REASON, HE WANTED MOVE QUICKLY. SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY USE GOOD OFFICES TO ADVISE GOT THAT ABBOTT HAS CAPABILITY AND INTEREST ENTER THIS FIELD. (NELSON REFERRED TO ABBOTT CODEINE FACTORY IN TASMANIA, MANAGER OF WHICH WILL TRANSIT ISTANBUL IN LATE

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NOVEMBER AND COULD BE BROUGHT IN TEMPORARILY TO INVESTIGATE

FEASIBILITY IN TURKEY.) NELSON EMPHASIZED HE HOPED GOT WOULD APPROACH ABBOTT CONCERNING THIS MATTER AS RESULT OF EMB. EFFORTS, RATHER THAN ABBOTT APPROACH GOT WHICH WOULD REQUIRE SERVICES OF INTERMEDIARIES.

3. CONGEN OFFICER ASKING NELSON TO PROVIDE COPY OR ALLOW OUR READING HIS CABLE FROM HOME OFFICE. NELSON IMPLIED THAT STATE DEPT. "INTEREST"IN HAVING ABBOTT INVOLVED THIS PROJECT STEMS FROM DEPT. "CONCERN"THAT IT MIGHT GO TO EAST EUROPEANS. THIS CONTRARY TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF USG POSITION FROM OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH AMB. HERE RECENTLY. WOULD APPRECIATE EMB. INFORMING US IT THERE ANY CHANGE IN USG "LAISSEZ FAIRE" ATTITUDE AND GUIDANCE ON REPLY WE MAY GIVE TO NELSON.
WILLIAMS

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Message Attributes

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